- - 51. An electronic circuit for use in a system with an exhaustible power source, a power switch, and an energy consuming load being primarily a light generating element, said system comprising:

(a) a microchip having at least a first input, said first input transmitting a signal to said microchip when said load has been activated or deactivated and, when in use with said power source and said load, not forming a serial link in a transfer circuit between the power source and the load;

(b) said power switch configured to be connected to said power source and to said load, and to control by on/off switching energy flow from said power source to said load; and

(c) said electronic circuit further controlling:

a find-in-the-dark location indicator that is active when the load is not energized and the power source is not being charged; and

a power source level indicator that is active when the load is not energized and the power source is not being charged.

52. A circuit according to claim 51 wherein at least one of said indicators changes its activating sequence to indicate a change in the operating mode of the system.

53. A circuit according to claim 52 wherein said power source level indication and said find-in-the-dark indicator are combined.

54. A circuit according to claim 53 which additionally controls:

an automatic delayed shut-off function in response to an activation signal on said first input, with said first input comprising an activating/deactivating user interface and said power switch controlled by said electronic circuit.

55. A circuit according to claim 52 which additionally controls:

an automatic delayed shut-off function in response to an activation signal on said first input, with said first input comprising an activating/deactivating user interface and said power switch controlled by said electronic circuit.

56. A circuit according to claim 51 wherein said find-in-the-dark indicator changes its mode based on said first input to said microchip.

57. A circuit according to claim 51 which additionally controls:

an automatic delayed shut-off function in response to an activation signal on said first input, with said first input comprising an activating/deactivating user interface and said power switch controlled by said electronic circuit.

58. An electronic circuit for use in a system with an exhaustible power source, a power switch, and an energy consuming load being primarily an electric motor, said system comprising:

(a) a microchip having at least a first input, said first input transmitting a signal to said microchip when said load has been activated or deactivated and, when in use with said power

source and said load, not forming a serial link in a transfer circuit between the power source and the load;

(b) said power switch configured to be connected to said power source and to said load and to control by on/off switching energy flow from said power source to said load; and

(c) said electronic circuit further controlling:

a find-in-the-dark location indicator that is active when the load is not energized and the power source is not being charged; and

a power source level indicator that is active when the load is not being energized and the power source is not being charged.

59. A circuit according to claim 58 wherein at least one of said indicators changes its activating sequence to indicate a change in the operating mode of the system.

60. A circuit according to claim 58 which additionally controls:

an automatic delayed shut-off function in response to an activation signal on said first input, with said first input comprising an activating/deactivating user interface and said power switch controlled by said electronic circuit.

61. An electronic circuit for use in a system with an exhaustible power source, a power switch, and an energy consuming load being primarily a radio, said system comprising:

(a) a microchip having at least a first input, said first input transmitting a signal to said microchip when said load has been activated or deactivated and, when in use with said power

source and said load, not forming a serial link in a transfer circuit between the power source and the load;

(b) said power switch configured to be connected to said power source and to said load and to control by on/off switching energy flow from said power source to said load; and

(c) said electronic circuit further controlling:

a find-in-the-dark location indicator that is active when the load is not energized and the power source is not being charged; and

a power source level indicator that is active when the load is not being energized and the power source is not being charged.

62. A circuit according to claim 61 which additionally controls:

an automatic delayed shut-off function in response to an activation signal on said first input, with said first input comprising an activating/deactivating user interface and said power switch controlled by said electronic circuit.

63. An electronic circuit for use in a flashlight, with an exhaustible power source, a power switch, and an energy consuming load being a light generating element, said circuit comprising:

(a) a microchip having at least a first input, said first input transmitting a signal to said microchip when said load has to be activated or deactivated and, when in use with said power source and said load, not forming a serial link in a transfer circuit between the power source and the load;

(b) said power switch configured to be connected to said power source and to said load and to control by on/off switching energy flow from said power source to said load; and

(c) said electronic circuit further controlling an automatic delayed shut-off function of said load, with said first input acting as an activation/deactivation user interface and said microchip controlling the said power switch to shut off after a predetermined period of time, in response to the receipt of an activation signal.

64. An electronic circuit according to claim 63 wherein said circuit further comprises a power source level indicator function that is active when the power source is not being charged.

65. An electronic circuit according to claim 64 wherein said microchip also performs some functions related to the charging of said power source.

66. An electronic circuit according to claim 63 wherein said circuit further comprises a find-in-the-dark indicator that is active when said load is deactivated and said power source is not being charged.

67. An electronic circuit according to claim 66 wherein said circuit further comprises a power source level indicator function that is active when said load is deactivated, and wherein the power source level indicator is combined with the find-in-the dark indicator.

68. An electronic circuit according to claim 67 further controlling at least one function selected from the group consisting of:

an average power reduction of said energy flow from said power source to said load;

an intermittent activation function of said load; and

a code sequence of activations of said load.

69. An electronic circuit according to claim 68 wherein the microchip determines the selection of a specific function by a user, based on the time duration of activation signals, the time duration between activation signals, and the number of activation signals, at said first input.

70. An electronic circuit according to claim 67 wherein said microchip also performs some functions related to the charging of said power source.

71. An electronic circuit according to claim 66 wherein said microchip also performs some functions related to the charging of said power source.

72. An electronic circuit according to claim 63 wherein the microchip determines the selection of a specific function by a user, based on the time duration of activation signals, the time duration between activation signals, and the number of activation signals, at said first input. - -